

# HOUSE BILL No. 1929

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-4-5.1.

**Synopsis:** Biomedical research fund. Establishes the Indiana biomedical research fund for the purpose of providing grants to support biomedical research by Indiana based private researchers and faculty of Indiana colleges and universities. Establishes the Indiana biomedical research investment oversight commission to administer the fund. Provides that the commission and the fund expire July 1, 2004. Appropriates \$125,000,000 to the fund.

**Effective:** July 1, 1999.

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January 26, 1999, read first time and referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 111th General Assembly (1999)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1998 General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1929

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 4-4-5.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS  
2 A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY  
3 1, 1999]:

4 **Chapter 5.1. Indiana Biomedical Research Fund**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the**  
6 **Indiana biomedical research policy investment oversight**  
7 **commission established by section 5 of this chapter.**

8 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the Indiana**  
9 **biomedical research fund established by section 3 of this chapter.**

10 **Sec. 3. (a) The Indiana biomedical research fund is established**  
11 **for the purpose of providing grants to support proposals for**  
12 **biomedical research in the following program areas:**

13 **(1) Infrastructure necessary for researchers in**  
14 **interdisciplinary or inter-institutional research programs to**  
15 **collaborate on thematically unified proposals, to promote**  
16 **teamwork, and to produce pilot data for use in obtaining**  
17 **federal funding, or private funding, or both.**

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(2) Establishment of centers of excellence that promote the creation of a leading national resource in a stated area of excellence by building the human resources and physical infrastructure necessary for a targeted research initiative in the stated area.

(3) Recruitment of world class researchers with proven ability to lead nationally recognized research programs.

(4) Matching grants from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and other federal and private sources of biomedical research funding.

(b) The fund shall be administered by the commission. The fund consists of appropriations from the general assembly and gifts and grants to the fund.

(c) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

(d) The money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund but remains in the fund to be used exclusively for the purposes of this chapter. However, if the fund is abolished, the money in the fund reverts to the state general fund.

Sec. 4. (a) Proposals requesting grants from the biomedical research fund must be targeted to achieve markedly increased levels of merit based federal funding in any medical, scientific, or engineering discipline in which research results have a clear impact on human health.

(b) The fund shall be limited to supporting proposals from Indiana based private researchers and faculty of Indiana colleges and universities.

(c) A proposal requesting a grant from the fund must:

(1) in the case of a proposal from an academic researcher, be made through the office of the president of the academic institution with the express endorsement of that institution's president; or

(2) in the case of a proposal from a private researcher, be made through the office of the highest ranking officer of the researcher's institution with the express endorsement of the institution.

(d) A proposal requesting a grant from the fund must include the following:

(1) The identity of the specific researcher or researchers to be supported.

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(2) A fully elaborated technical research plan that is capable of review by outside experts as provided in this chapter.

(3) A detailed budget with appropriate benchmarks for scientific progress and expenditures.

(4) A statement indicating the degree to which support from the fund will be leveraged by cost sharing from the researcher's institution and the precise ways in which it will lead to significantly increased funding from federal and private funding sources and private sector research partners.

(5) Verification that the grant amount will not be used to replace discretionary funds that the researcher's institution has committed to similar endeavors.

(6) Any other information that the commission considers appropriate.

(e) A proposal requesting a grant to fund the recruitment of an eminent scholar must include the following:

(1) Qualifications and experience of the eminent scholar that demonstrate a proven ability to lead nationally recognized research programs.

(2) The institution's plan for a two (2) year research funding package necessary to attract the eminent scholar to Indiana, including a detailed budget for equipment, space, personnel, operating funds, and other documented expenses promoting state of the art basic research.

(3) The amount of the grant request, not to exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) over two (2) years, and evidence of matching funds from the requesting institution at not less than a one-to-one (1:1) ratio.

**Sec. 5. The Indiana biomedical research policy investment oversight commission is established. The commission consists of eight (8) voting and four (4) nonvoting members as follows:**

(1) The lieutenant governor, or the lieutenant governor's designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the commission.

(2) Two (2) members of the Indiana house of representatives from different political parties, who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. Members appointed under this subdivision are nonvoting advisory members.

(3) Two (2) members of the Indiana senate from different political parties, who shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate. Members appointed under this subdivision are nonvoting advisory members.

(4) The vice president for research of Purdue University.



(5) The vice president for research of Indiana University.

(6) The vice president for research of the University of Notre Dame.

(7) The vice president for research of another Indiana college or university, to be appointed by the governor.

(8) The vice president for research of a pharmaceutical company, to be appointed by the governor.

(9) The vice president of research for an Indiana medical device or manufacturing company, to be appointed by the governor.

(10) A representative of the health care profession, to be appointed by the governor.

Sec. 6. (a) A member of the general assembly appointed to the commission under section 5(2) or 5(3) of this chapter serves a term of two (2) years. However, a member vacates the member's seat on the commission when the member ceases to be a member of the house of the general assembly that the member represented when the member was appointed.

(b) Members of the commission appointed under section 5(8) through 5(10) of this chapter serve terms of four (4) years.

Sec. 7. The appointing authority shall fill a vacancy on the commission for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Sec. 8. A quorum for a meeting of the commission consists of five (5) voting members.

Sec. 9. Five (5) affirmative votes are required for the commission to take action.

Sec. 10. Members of the commission are not entitled to per diem or reimbursement of expenses for their service on the commission.

Sec. 11. The commission shall make final funding determinations for grant proposals submitted under this chapter. In making these determinations, the commission shall be advised by a peer review panel described in section 12 of this chapter and shall consider the following criteria:

(1) The scientific merit of the proposal.

(2) The predicted future success of federal funding, or private funding, or both, for the proposal.

(3) The demonstrated ability of the researcher to attract merit based scientific funding of health related research.

(4) The extent to which the proposal promotes the movement of successful individual researchers into the more competitive aspects of collaborative interdisciplinary research.

(5) The extent to which the proposal provides evidence of



interdisciplinary collaboration, or inter-institutional collaboration, or both, as well as cost sharing and partnership support from the biomedical corporate community.

(6) The extent to which the proposal furthers the policy objectives of the biomedical research fund.

Sec. 12. (a) A peer review panel shall review and prioritize requests for grants from the fund based upon the criteria set forth in this chapter. The panel shall be chosen by and shall report to the commission.

(b) The panel is comprised of not less than five (5) and not more than seven (7) research scientists who have extensive experience in federal biomedical research funding.

(c) A panel member may not have a relationship with any private entity or academic institution in Indiana that would constitute a conflict of interest for the panel member.

Sec. 13. This chapter expires July 1, 2004.

SECTION 2. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1999] (a) There is appropriated to the Indiana biomedical research fund one hundred twenty-five million dollars (\$125,000,000) from the state general fund for use in carrying out the purposes of this act beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30, 2004.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2004.

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